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Message Text

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ACTION OIC-02

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DEPT PLEASE PASS HUD-SFR: MR. C. RASSIAS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OCON, ECE
SUBJECT: ECE AD HOC MEETING ON REQUIREMENTS FOR CONSTRUCTION IN SEISMIC REGIONS, BELGRADE, APRIL 3-7, 1978

REF: STATE 78289

1. UN/ECE AD HOC MEETING ON REQUIREMENTS FOR CONSTRUCTION IN SEISMIC REGIONS WAS HELD 3-7 APRIL 1978 IN BELGRADE. REPRESENTATIVES FROM: DENMARK, FRANCE, GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, GERMAN FEDERAL REPUBLIC, HUNGARY, ITALY, POLAND, PORTUGAL, ROMANIA, SOVIET UNION, UNITED STATES, AND YUGOSLAVIA PARTICIPATED IN MEETING. TUNISIA WAS REPRESENTED IN CONSULTATIVE CAPACITY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 11 OF TERMS OF REFERENCE OF ECE. COMMISSION OF EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES (CEC) ALSO ATTENDED MEETING. FOLLOWING INTER-NATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS WERE REPRESENTED: EUR-INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR CONCRETE (CEB), INTER-NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR BUILDING RESEARCH, STUDIES AND DOCUMENTATION (CIB), EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING (EAEE), EUROPEAN SEISMOLOGICAL COMMISSION (ESC), INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR STANDARDIZATION (ISO), JOINT COMMITTEE FOR STRUCTURAL SAFETY (JCSS) AND INTER-NATIONAL UNION OF ARCHITECTS (UIA). UNITED NATIONS
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INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (UNIDO) REPRESENTATIVE WAS ALSO PRESENT FOR PART OF THE MEETING.

2. PRIMARY OBJECTIVE OF AD HOC MEETING WAS TO REVIEW AND DISCUSS NATIONAL COMMENTS RECEIVED TO THE DRAFT "UNIFIED EUROPEAN COUNTRIES' CODE FOR STRUCTURAL DESIGN IN SEISMIC REGIONS" (MOSCOW 1975) PREPARED BY A WORKING GROUP OF EAEE.

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THIS HARMONIZED CODE WAS DEVELOPED AT DIRECTION OF UN/ECE
WORKING PARTY ON THE BUILDING INDUSTRY, AND WAS TO BE
CONSIDERED, ALONG WITH RESULTS OF THIS AD HOC MEETING, AT
10TH SESSION OF WORKING PARTY IN GENEVA IN JUNE 1978.

3. AFTER USUAL FORMALITIES, INTRODUCTIONS AND SHORT
DELEGATE STATEMENTS, REVIEW OF THE NATIONAL COMMENTS TO THE
DRAFT EAEE CODE TOOK FORM OF CRITICAL ANALYSIS PAPERS
PREPARED BY CONSULTANTS TO UN SECRETARIAT (FROM YUGOSLAVIA
AND POLAND) COVER TOPICS OF: SEISMIC DESIGN REQUIREMENTS,
SAFETY REQUIREMENTS ASPECTS AND OTHER RELATED TECHNICAL
MATTERS. LIVELY DISCUSSION AND CRITIQUE FOLLOWED EACH
PRESENTATION WITH ALL DELEGATES ACTIVELY TAKING PART.
ONE NOTABLE EXCEPTION TO THIS PATTERN WAS DELEGATE FROM THE USSR
WHO, AFTER MAKING A SHORT GENERALIZED INTRODUCTORY REMARK AT
OPENING OF MEETING, DID NOT MAKE ANOTHER STATEMENT TO ASSEMBLY
FOR DURATION OF MEETING. THIS BEHAVIOR WAS ALL THE MORE NOTICEABLE
SINCE USSR WAS VERY INSTRUMENTAL IN DEVELOPMENT OF MANY OF
THE TECHNICAL PROVISIONS IN SUBJECT CODE AND WAS OBVIOUSLY
INTERESTED IN TIS ADOPTION.

4. RESULTS OF DISCUSSIONS CAN ESSENTIALLY BE SUMMED UP BY
STATING THAT DIRECTION AND PHILOSOPHY PREFERRED AND RECOMMENDED
WAS FOR DRAFT EAEE CODE TO CONCENTRATE ON THE BROAD FRAME-
WORK AND GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF SIESMIC REGUALTIONS, ALLOWING
MEMBER COUNTRIES TO ESTABLISH SPECIFIC DESIGN AND SAFETY
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PARAMETERS TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THEIR PARTICULAR SITUATIONS.
THEY WERE MOST ANXIOUS TO LEARN FROM OUR CURRENT ACTIVITIES
IN THIS AREA AND WE PROVIDED THE YUGOSLAV CHAIRMAN, UN
SECRETARIAT, EAEE AND JCSS COPIES OF LATEST US DRAFT
PROVISIONS FOR SEISMIC REGULATIONS FOR BUILDINGS DEVELOPED
BY NSF/NBS FOR WHICH THEY WERE MOST APPRECIATIVE.

5. FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS OF AD HOC MEETING EMBRACED BROAD
SPECTRUM OF GENERALIZED REQUESTS TO NUMBER OF INTERNATIONAL
TECHNICAL ORGINIZATIONS TO ENGAGE IN ACTIVITIES COMPLEMENTARY
TO DEVELOPMENT OF UNIFIED EAEE DRAFT CODE. ACTIVITIES RANGE
FROM ADVANCEMENTS IN STATE OF THE ART OF EARTHQUAKE
ENGINEERING AND BUILDING DESIGN TO COORDINATION OF STRONG
MOTION NETWORK DATA. THESE RECOMMENDATIONS TO WORKING PARTY
ON THE BUILDING INDUSTRY WILL CERTAINLY BE ONE OF THE
SIGNIFICANT TOPICS TO BE DUSCUSSED AT FORTHCOMING 10TH
SESSION. WE SHOULD HAVE NO DIFFICULTY IN SUBSCRIBING TO
THESE TECHNICAL GOALS.

6. FINALLY, IT WAS LEARNED THAT USSR DELEGATE INTENDED
MAKE STATEMENT AT CLOSE OF MEETING RELATING TO DELEGATE
FROM THE GERMAN FEDERAL REPUBLIC WHO WAS FROM FEDERAL

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INSTITUTE FOR MATERIALS TESTING (BAM) IN WEST BERLIN.
DELEGATION WAS LATER ADVISED BY UN SECRETARIAT, HOWEVER,
THAT HAVING CONDULTED WITH OTHER EAST EUROPEAN DELEGATIONS
USSR DELEGATE DECIDED NOT TO MAKE THE STATEMENT. FROM
WERNER.
EAGLEBURGER

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